

What We Claim Is:

1. A container adapted to contain a water based or solvent based formulation, the container including
 - 5 - an anti-skimming layer located on at least a portion of the internal surface of the container, wherein the anti-skimming layer is capable of retaining a layer of the formulation without excluding the formulation vapour in the container from contacting the formulation.
- 10 2 A container according to claim 1, wherein the anti-skimming layer substantially maintains the water or solvent concentration of any of the water or solvent based formulation retained on the anti-skimming layer.
- 15 3 A container according to claim 1 or claim 2 in which the anti-skimming layer is textured.
- 4 A container according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the anti-skimming layer is porous, fibrous, filamentous, a gauze or foam lining.
- 20 5 A container according to any one of claims 1 to 4 in which the anti-skimming layer additionally has insulative properties.
- 6 A container according to any one of claims 1 to 5 in which the anti-skimming layer is integrally moulded or adhered onto the internal surface of the container.
- 25 7 A container according to any one of claims 1 to 6 in which the anti-skimming layer is thermally bonded onto the internal surface of the container.

- 8 A container according to any one of claims 1 to 7 in which the container is adapted to contain approximately 10 ml to 50,000 litres of formulation.
- 5 9 A container according to any one of claims 1 to 8 in which the water based or solvent based formulation is a formulation prone to skinning.
- 10 10 A container according to claim 9 in which the formulation prone to skinning is a latex based paint, an alkyd paint, a flat, a satin, a semi-gloss or a gloss paint, a varnish, a lacquer, a glue or resin such as PVA™, a resin emulsion or a water based ink.
- 11 11 A container adapted to contain a water based or solvent based formulation, including
 - 15 - a container sealing means including an anti-skimming layer located on at least a portion of the internal surface of the sealing means, wherein the anti-skimming layer is capable of retaining a layer of the formulation, without excluding the formulation vapour in the container from contacting the formulation.
- 20 12 A container according to claim 11 wherein the anti-skimming layer substantially maintains the water or solvent concentration of any of the water or solvent based formulation retained on the anti-skimming layer.
- 25 13 A container according to claim 11 or claim 12, in which the anti-skimming layer substantially covers the internal surface of the sealing means.
- 30 14 A container according to any one of claims 11 to 13 in which the anti-skimming layer is textured.

- 15 A container according to any one of claim 11 to 14, in which the anti-skimming layer is porous, fibrous, filamentous, a gauze or foam lining.
- 16 A container containing according to any one of claims 11 to 15 in which the anti-skimming layer has insulative properties.
- 17 A container according to any one of claims 11 to 16 in which the anti-skimming layer is integrally moulded or adhered onto the container sealing means.
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- 18 A container according to any one of claims 11 to 17 in which the anti-skimming layer is thermally bonded onto the internal surface of the container.
- 15 19 A container according to any one of claims 11 to 18 in which the container is adapted to contain approximately 10 ml to 50,000 litres of formulation.
- 20 A container according to any one of claims 11 to 19 in which the sealing means is a resealable lid.
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- 21 A container according to any one of claims 11 to 20 in which the water based or solvent based formulation is prone to skinning.
- 25 22 A container according to claim 21 in which the formulation prone to skinning is a latex based paint, an alkyd paint, a flat, a satin, a semi-gloss or a gloss paint, a varnish, a lacquer, a glue or resin such as PVA™, a resin emulsion or a water based ink.
- 30 23 A container according to any one of claims 11 to 22, in which the container includes a second anti-skimming layer extending about at least a portion of the internal surface of the container and the formulation.

- 24 A container according to claim 23, in which the second anti-skinning layer is located between the circumferential lip of the container and the formulation.
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- 25 A container according to claim 23 or claim 24 in which the second anti-skinning layer is textured.
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- 26 A container according to any one of claims 23 to 25, in which the second anti-skinning layer is integrally moulded or adhered onto the internal surface of the container.
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- 27 A container according to any one of claims 23 to 26 in which the second anti-skinning layer is thermally bonded onto the internal surface of the container.
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- 28 A container according to any one of claims 23 to 26 in which the second anti-skinning layer is an integrally moulded series of spaced apart concentric ribs integrally moulded into a plastics container between the top of the container proximate the sealing means to at least the formulation level.
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- 29 A container according to claim 28 in which the integrally moulded series of ribs extend from the top of the internal surface of the container proximate to the sealing means substantially to the container base.
- 30 A method of preventing skin formation on a water based or solvent based formulation, the method including the steps of:
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- placing the water based or solvent based formulation in a container according to any one of claims 1 to 29, and
 - storing or transporting the formulation.

- 31 A sealing means adapted to substantially control skinning of water based or solvent based formulations, in which the sealing means includes an anti-skinning layer, in which the layer is located on at least 5 a portion of the inner surface of the sealing means, wherein the anti-skinning layer, when in use on a container adapted to contain a water-based or solvent based formulation, is capable of retaining a layer of the formulation, without excluding the formulation vapour in the container from contacting the formulation.
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- 32 A sealing means according to claim 31 wherein the anti-skinning layer substantially maintains the water or solvent concentration of any of the water or solvent based formulation retained on the anti-skinning layer.
- 15 33 A sealing means according to claim 31 or claim 32 in which the anti-skinning layer is textured.
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- 34 A sealing means according to any one of claims 31 to 33 in which the anti-skinning layer is porous, fibrous, filamentous, a gauze or foam lining.
- 35 A sealing means according to any one of claims 31 to 34 in which the anti-skinning layer has insulative properties.
- 25 36 A sealing means according to any one of claims 31 to 35 in which the anti-skinning layer is approximately 0.001 mm to 5 cm thick.
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- 37 A sealing means according to any one of claims 31 to 36 in which the anti-skinning layer is integrally moulded or adhered onto the internal surface of the sealing means.

- 38 A sealing means according to any one of claims 31 to 37 in which the anti-skimming layer is thermally bonded onto the internal surface of the sealing means.
- 5 39 A sealing means according to any one of claims 31 to 38 in which the anti-skimming layer covers substantially the entire surface area of the internal surface of the sealing means.
- 10 40 A sealing means according to any one of claims 31 to 39, in which the sealing means is a resealable lid.
- 15 41 A container including a sealing means, in which the container is adapted to contain a formulation prone to skinning by loss of water or solvent wherein at least a portion of the internal surface of the container in proximity with the ullage space of the container has a means capable of retaining a layer of the formulation, without excluding the formulation vapour in the container from contacting the formulation.
- 20 42 A container according to claim 41 wherein said means substantially maintains the water or solvent concentration of the layer of formulation retained.
- 25 43 A container according to claim 41 or claim 42 in which the means is an anti-skimming layer from 0.001 to 5 mm thick.
- 30 44 A container according to any one of claims 41 to 43 in which the anti-skimming layer substantially covers the internal surface of the sealing means.
- 45 A container according to claim 41 or claim 44 in which the anti-skimming layer is textured.

- 46 A container according to any one of claims 41 to 45 in which the anti-skinning layer is porous, fibrous, filamentous, a gauze or foam lining.
- 5 47 A container according to any one of claims 41 to 46 in which the anti-skinning layer has insulative properties.
- 48 A container according to any one of claims 41 to 47 in which the anti-skinning layer is integrally moulded or adhered to the internal surface of
10 the sealing means.
- 49 A container according to any one of claims 41 to 48, in which the anti-skinning layer is selected from a group consisting of woven or unwoven polyolefin cloth or gauze, artificial grass matting and glass fibre felt.
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- 50 A container according to claim 49 wherein the layer is thermally bonded to a plastics sealing means.
- 51 A container according to claim 50 wherein the plastics sealing means is
20 a resealable lid.